

TUSAFB Brief Bio February 22, 2002 Word count: 287

## The Musical Ambassadors of the Army Washington, DC

## THE MUSICAL AMBASSADORS OF THE ARMY

From Boston to Bombay, Tokyo to Toronto, The United States Army Field Band has been thrilling audiences of all ages for more than half a century. As the premier touring musical representative for the United States Army, this internationally-acclaimed organization travels thousands of miles each year presenting a variety of music to enthusiastic audiences throughout the nation and abroad. Through these concerts, the Field Band keeps the will of the American people behind the members of the armed forces and supports diplomatic efforts around the world.

Since its formation in March 1946, the Field Band has appeared in all 50 states and in more than 30 countries on four continents. The organization's four performing components, the Concert Band, the Soldiers' Chorus, the Jazz Ambassadors, and the Volunteers, each travel over 100 days annually. Tours include formal public concerts, school assemblies, educational outreach programs, festivals, and radio and television appearances.

Performance highlights include concerts and ceremonies in the United States and Europe commemorating the 50th anniversary of World War II, for the 750th anniversary of the founding of Berlin, at the rededication of the Statue of Liberty, for Presidential Inaugural Parades, and at international jazz festivals in Switzerland, Belgium, and the Netherlands. Joint concerts with many of the nation's leading orchestras, including the Boston Pops, National Symphony, Cincinnati Pops, and Detroit Symphony Orchestra, have received rave reviews.

The United States Army Field Band is considered by music critics to be one of the most versatile and inspiring musical organizations in the world. Its members, selected by highly-competitive audition, represent some of the finest musical talent in America. More than five decades as the military's most traveled musicians have earned them the title, "The Musical Ambassadors of the Army."